If Roe falls, some fear repercussions for reproductive care

Associated Press

If the Supreme Court follows through on overturning Roe v. Wade, abortion likely will be banned or greatly restricted in about half the U.S. states. But experts and advocates fear repercussions could reach even further, affecting care for women who miscarry, couples seeking fertility treatments and access to some forms of contraception. Many conservatives insist they are only interested in curtailing abortion, and legislation passed so far often has exceptions for other reproductive care. But rumblings from some in the GOP have experts concerned, and laws banning abortion could also have unintended side effects.

"The rhetoric has been really increasing over the last several years," said Mara Gandal-Powers, the director of birth control access at the National Women's Law Center.



Margot Riphagen of New Orleans, wears a birth control pill costume as she protests in front of the Supreme Court in Washington on March 25, 2014.

Associated Press Continued on next page





Continued from Front

"There's definitely a domino effect which I think people are really starting to wake up to and see this is how far it could go."

If Roe is overturned, as suggested by a leaked draft opinion, states will set their own abortion laws, and conservative lawmakers are already passing a steady stream of deeply restrictive regulations. Oklahoma lawmakers, for example, passed legislation Thursday banning abortion at conception, the strictest in the nation.

Although that bill has some exceptions, it signals a direction that is deeply worrisome for many doctors.

"I truly think the people writing these laws either have no concept of the broad implications or do not care about how this impacts so many aspects of women's health care," said Dr. Kristyn Brandi, a New Jersey OB-GYN who provides abortion care.

"In medicine, you are not considered pregnant until this fertilized egg is implanted into the uterus — which happens after fertilization," Brandi said. She said it is unclear whether doctors performing infertility treatments would be in violation of the law if they dispose of extra fertilized eggs. The Oklahoma measure "is not based in science and is incredibly confusing and frustrating for medical professionals trying to provide evidence based care."

The Roe decision was based on a constitutional right to privacy — and the decision leaned on another landmark case eight years earlier that gave married couples the right to birth control, Griswold v. Connecticut.

Reliable birth control is now a feature of life for millions of Americans, but in March U.S. Sen. Marsha Blackburn of Tennessee recorded a video message naming the Griswold decision as "constitutionally unsound." She's not proposing restrictions on birth control but hasn't commented further to clarify what she meant.

Other conservatives have conflated emergency contraception, often known as the morning-after pill, with



Casie Farnsworth wears a birth control costume as she speaks to a crowd of protesters outside Rep. Jackie Walorski's office on Nov. 9, 2017, in Mishawaka, Ind.

Associated Press

abortion. In Idaho, for example, it was prohibited at school-based health clinics last year under a law banning public funding for "abortion related services." Along with long-acting birth control devices called IUDs, emergency contraception has been been attacked by abortion foes who believe life begins when an egg is fertilized.

But those pills have no effect once a pregnancy is established, after implantation in the womb, Brandi said.

"You can take Plan B all you want when you're pregnant. It will not do anything to your pregnancy," she said.

Emergency contraceptive pills like Plan B and IUDs may also prevent a fertilized egg from implanting in the womb, but experts say the science on that isn't clear. It is believed they mostly work by blocking fertilization.

Political attempts to block access to intrauterine devices and other birth control "would be consistent with the pattern that we're er forms of reproductive seeing right now," said Dr. care, like treating ectopic Jennifer Kerns, an associate professor at the University of California, San Francisco who also provides abortion care.

"Many of us are very concerned that that's kind of the next up on the choppina block."

In Missouri last year, for example, there was a failed effort to prevent IUDs and contracepemergency tion from being paid for by Medicaid. But in Tennessee, which just passed harsh penalties for providing abortion medication, Republican Senate Speaker Randy McNally pushed back on any suggestion that contraception could be in the crosshairs.

"Contraception and abortion are not the same thing. One is a responsible way to prevent pregnancy. The other ends a human life. It is a flagrant attempt to change the conversation and it won't work," spokesman Adam Kleinheider said in a statement.

The governor of Mississippi, one of 13 states that will immediately ban abortion if Roe is overturned, wouldn't say whether he'd sign a hypothetical birthcontrol ban when asked on "Meet the Press." Gov. Tate Reeves later clarified on Twitter: "I'm not interested in banning contraceptives." But doctors also worry othpregnancies, could be tara fertilized egg implants outside the uterus, often in a fallopian tube. They are often life-threatening medical emergencies because the fragile tube can rupture, causing massive inter-

nal bleeding.

In 2019, an Ohio Republican proposed a measure that would have compelled doctors to try transplanting ectopic pregnancies into the uterus or allowing insurers to cover the hypothetical procedure, which is considered medically impossible.

After Texas banned abortion after six weeks, Kerns said colleagues there have told of patients with ectopic pregnancies being transferred out of state for treatment, putting their health at risk.

Physicians may even become hesitant to treat miscarriage, said Brandi, the New Jersey OB-GYN.

Women often miscarry alone, early in pregnancy, with no need for medical assistance. For others, it involves heavy prolonged bleeding and treatment is exactly the same as abortion — the same pills or procedure. Doctors in states that outlaw abortion would fear repercussions for treating miscarriages, Brandi said. Most end safely but infection is a risk, she said. Plus, Brandi added, it can take eight weeks for somegeted. These occur when one "once they've diagnosed with a miscarriage to actually pass the pregnancy" without intervention. That can be traumatic, particularly for women who wanted to be pregnant. Roxanne Kelly, a mental health specialist in Arkansas, has a family history of miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies. Knowing she's at high risk, she shudders hearing politicians equate treatment for both with abortion.

"Instead of receiving medical care, ... I would be treated potentially as a murderer," Kelly said. She shared her fears with her husband recently, and he "immediately offered to get a vasectomy," saying "it's reversible and keeps you safe," Kelly said.

Meanwhile, some states still have abortion bans on the books that date back to the 1800s. If Roe is overturned, those bans with vague definitions of abortion could snap back into effect.

"Some states don't say what abortion is; they just say abortion is a crime," said Mary Ziegler, a law professor at University of California, Davis. "There's a history of defining abortion more broadly to include steps in IVF or some forms of contraception."

The Supreme Court isn't expected to issue its final ruling until June or July, but some states are already considering going beyond banning abortion. Lawmakers in Louisiana considered a proposal to make it a homicide — a plan the governor said could criminalize some types of contraception and parts of the in vitro fertilization process. The legislation stalled, but it could signal future tactics. Oklahoma passed a series of strict new anti-abortion measures after seeing abortions spike as a ban in nearby Texas sent women to surrounding states. Legislation passed Thursday and set to be signed by the governor has exceptions for ectopic pregnancies despite opposition from at least one lawmaker — and contraception, too, but not a specific exception for in vitro fertilization.

The legislation, which is enforced through civil lawsuits similar to the Texas ban, would "provide strong, additional protection of the life of unborn children in Oklahoma," Republican sponsor Rep. Wendi Stearman said in a statement.



Pentagon says more high-tech weapons going to Ukraine

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly 50 defense leaders from around the world met Monday and agreed to send more advanced weapons to Ukraine, including a harpoon launcher and missiles to protect its coast, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin told reporters.

And Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said that "low-level" discussion is underway on how the U.S. may need to adjust its training of Ukrainian forces and on whether some U.S. troops should be based in Ukraine.

The U.S. withdrew its few troops in Ukraine before the war and has no plans to send in combat forces. Milley's comments left open the possibility troops could return for embassy security or another non-combat role.

The U.S. embassy in Kyiv has partially reopened and is staffing up again, and there have been questions about whether the U.S. will send a Marine security force back in to help protect the embassy or if other options should be considered.

Asked if U.S. special opera-



Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin, left, and Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Mark Milley, speak with reporters after a virtual meeting of the Ukraine Defense Contact Group at the Pentagon, Monday, May 23, 2022, in Washington.

Associated Press

tions forces may go into Ukraine, which officials have insisted they are not doing yet, Milley said that "any reintroduction of U.S. forces into Ukraine would require a presidential decision. So we're a ways away from anything like that."

Speaking to Pentagon reporters, Austin declined to say if the U.S. will send Ukraine high-tech mobile rocket launchers, which it has requested. But Austin said that some 20 nations announced Monday that they will send new packages of security assistance to Ukraine, as its war with Russia reaches the threemonth mark.

In particular, he said that Denmark has agreed to send a harpoon launcher and missiles to Ukraine to help Ukraine defend its coast. Russia has ships in the Black Sea and has used them to launch cruise missiles into Ukraine. The Russian ships have also stopped all commercial

ship traffic from entering Ukraine ports.

"We've gained a sharper, shared sense of Ukraine's priority requirements and the situation on the battlefield," Austin told reporters at the close of the virtual meeting with the defense leaders. "Many countries are donating critically needed artillery ammunition, coastal defense systems and tanks and other armored vehicles. Others came forward with new commitments for training." The U.S. and other countries have been training Ukrainian forces in nearby European countries.

Austin added that the Czech Republic recently donated attack helicopters, tanks and rockets, and that Italy, Greece, Norway and Poland announced new donations Monday of artillery systems and ammu-

"The nature of the fight, as you've heard us describe a number of times is ... really shaped by artillery in this phase," said Austin. "And we've seen serious exchanges of artillery fires over the last several

For Americans, 2021 delivered healthiest finances in 8 years

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER **AP Economics Writer** WASHINGTON (AP)

Americans' financial health reached its highest level in nearly a decade last year, the Federal Reserve said Monday, spurred by a strong job market and government support payments.

Almost eight in 10 adults said last fall that they were either "doing okay or living comfortably" when it came to their finances in 2021, according to an annual Fed survey, the highest proportion to say so since the survey began in 2013.

The survey of 11,000 adults was taken last October and November, when inflation had topped 6% yearover-year, though before Russia's invasion of Ukraine pushed gas and food prices sharply higher. The Fed did not ask any specific questions about how inflation was impacting Americans' financial situations.

The survey also took place before the huge omicron wave of COVID cases occurred in late 2021, causing some Americans to pull back on travel and other spending.

The financial health captured by the report helps explain the resilience of consumers in the face of higher prices, as consumer spending, adjusted for inflation, has continued to rise even as inflation is near a 40-year high.

The report found that memported healthier finances, with Hispanics showing the sharpest improvement and whites the smallest.

Nearly seven in 10 people said they could pay an unexpected expense of \$400 with cash or its equivalent, the highest since 2013. Still, 11% said they would be unable to pay it at all.

People with children also reported a sharp increase in financial well-being, with three-quarters saying they were doing "at least okay" financially, up eight percentage points from 2020 and four points above 2019, before the pandemic.

The boost for parents likely reflected the reopening of schools, Fed officials said, allowing more parents to work and reduce their child care expenses. The expansion of the child tax credit, included in President Joe Biden's \$1.9 trillion financial bers of all racial groups re-relief package, was also likely an important factor, Fed officials said.

Lower-income parents reported the biggest increases in their financial health. For those earning less than \$25,000, the proportion that said they were doing at least okay jumped to 53% from 40%.



In this May 4, 2021 file photo is the Federal Reserve in Washing-

Associated Press

per child to most parents. Higher-income parents said they mostly saved the money, while for those with incomes of less than \$50,000, three in 10 said they spent the largest portion on housing, while 15% said the biggest portion went to food.

The expanded child tax The Federal Reserve, for the credit included monthly first time, asked about cryppayments of up to \$300 tocurrency in the survey. It found that 12% of Americans had held crypto in the past 12 months, but only 3% had used it in financial transactions. The Fed said 2% used it to make a payment, and 1% used crypto to send money to someone, Fed officials said.



Appeals court: Florida law on social media unconstitutional

By CURT ANDERSON **Associated Press** ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) —

A Florida law intended to punish social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter is an unconstitutional violation of the First Amendment, a federal appeals court ruled Monday, dealing a major victory to companies who had been accused by GOP Gov. Ron DeSantis of discriminating against conservative thought.

A three-judge panel of the Atlanta-based 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously concluded that it was overreach for DeSantis and the Republican-led Florida Legislature to tell the social media companies how to conduct their work under the Constitution's free speech auarantee.

"Put simply, with minor exceptions, the government can't tell a private person or entity what to say or how to say it," said Circuit Judge Kevin Newsom, an appointee of former President Donald Trump, in the opinion. "We hold that it is substantially likely that social media companies even the biggest ones are private actors whose rights the First Amendment protects."

The ruling upholds a similar decision by a Florida fed-



Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis speaks at Miami's Freedom Tower, on Monday, May 9, 2022. **Associated Press**

eral district judge on the law, which was signed by DeSantis in 2021. It was part of an overall conservative effort to portray social media companies as generally liberal in outlook and hostile to ideas outside of that viewpoint, especially from the political right.

"Some of these massive, massive companies in Silicon Valley are exerting a power over our population that really has no precedent in American history," DeSantis said during a May 2021 bill-signing ceremony. "One of their major missions seems to be suppressing

However, the appeals panel ruled that the tech companies' actions were protected, with Judge Newsom writing that Facebook, Twitter, TikTok and others are "engaged in constitutionally protected expressive activity when they moderate and curate the content that they disseminate on their platforms."

There was no immediate response to emails Monday afternoon from DeSantis' press secretary or communications director on the ruling.

DeSantis is running for reelection this year and eveing a potential run for the 2024 GOP presidential nomination.

He was the first governor to sign a bill like this into law, although similar ones have been proposed in other states.

One of those, in Texas, was allowed to go into effect by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, and the tech companies involved there are asking for emergency U.S. Supreme Court review on whether to block it. No decision on that was immediately released.

The Computer & Communications Industry Association, a nonprofit group representing tech and communications companies, said the ruling represents victory for Internet users and free speech in general especially as it relates to potentially offensive content.

"When a digital service takes action against problematic content on its own site whether extremism, Russian propaganda, or racism and abuse it is exercising its own right to free expression," said CCIA President Matt Schruers in a statement.

As enacted, the law would give Florida's attorney general authority to sue companies under the state's Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act. It would also allow individual Floridians to sue social media companies for up to \$100,000 if they feel they've been treated unfairly.

The bill targeted social media platforms have more than 100 million monthly users, which include online giants as Twitter and Facebook. But lawmakers carved out an exception for the Walt Disney Co. and their apps by including that theme park owners wouldn't be subject to the law.

The law would require large social media companies to publish standards on how it decides to "censor, deplatform, and shadow ban."

Cooler weather helps firefighters battling New Mexico blaze



Fire rages along a ridgeline east of highway 518 near the Taos County line as firefighters from all over the country converge on Northern New Mexico to battle the Hermit's Peak and Calf Canyon fires on May 13, 2022.

Associated Press

MORA, N.M. (AP) — Fire- largest active wildfire said fighters in New Mexico who Monday that cooler weathare battling the nation's er helped them prevent

the blaze from growing as nearly 3,000 firefighters worked to strengthen and increase their firebreaks.

Authorities also took stock of the ecological impact of the blaze in a survey of burn severity and soil damage in areas that may be prone to extreme erosion and lengthy deforestation. The blaze that started nearly seven weeks ago in the Rocky Mountains foothills remained just 40% contained Monday. Fire crews were helped over the weekend by water-dropping helicopters and aircraft and cooler temperatures, but warmer weather was expected Monday. The blaze started as two

fires and burned into one large conflagration. Flames have consumed more than 484 square miles (1,253 square kilometers) of timber, grassland and brush and evacuations have been place for weeks.

On Monday, the U.S. Forest Service released a survey of vegetation and soil damage across 118 square miles (465 square kilometer) of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains that burned in recent weeks, including public and private land.

About one-firth of the area experienced high-severity burning that can lead to heavy and even dangerous erosion. Trees in those areas will take many years

to recover without planting. The fire is among five active large fires in the state and among 14 nationally, according to the National Interagency Fire Center.

The New Mexico fire accounts for nearly 60% of the 536 square miles (1,388 square kilometers) consumed by wildfires in the U.S. so far this year.

Wildfires have broken out this spring in multiple states in the western U.S., where climate change and an enduring drought are fanning the frequency and intensity of forest and grassland fires. The number of square miles burned so far this year is far above the 10-year national average.



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Xinjiang in focus as U.N. rights chief arrives for China visit

BEIJING (AP) — Allegations of human rights abuses in northwestern China's Xinjiang region will dominate a visit by the United Nations' top rights official that began Monday.

Michelle Bachelet's trip is the first to China by a U.N. high commissioner for human rights since 2005, and rights groups warn it threatens to whitewash abuses by the ruling Communist Party in Xinjiang.

China locked up an estimated million or more members of Uyghur, Kazakh and other Muslim minorities in what critics describe as a campaign to obliterate their distinct cultural identities. China says it has nothing to hide and welcomes all those without political bias to visit Xinjiang and view what it describes as a successful campaign to restore order and ethnic cohesion.

Bachelet began her sixday visit in the southern city of Guangzhou and will travel to the Xinjiang cities of Kashgar, once a stop on the Silk Road, and Urumai, the region's capital. Details have been tightly held and China's Communist Partycontrolled media have not reported on her visit.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin confirmed Bachelet's arrival and said she would have "extensive exchanges with all sectors." No journalists will travel with her in China, but Bachelet will



Michelle Bachelet, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, speaks during a news conference at the European headquarters of the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, on Dec. 9, 2020. **Associated Press**

"brief the media on her visit in due course," Wang said at a daily briefing on Mon-

"I hope that this visit will further promote exchanges and cooperation between the two sides and play an active role in advancing It's not clear whether Bachthe international human elet will be able to meet rights cause," he said.

A key question is whether Bachelet will be allowed to visit the former internment camps that China called vocational training and education centers and meet with people imprisoned over calls for greater religious, political and cultural freedoms, such as IIham Tohti, an economist and winner of the Sakharov Prize. China has also been accused of using forced labor, coercive birth control and separating children from their incarcerated parents. The monitoring group The Dui Hua Foundation says fasting for Ramadan or selling Islamic books has also been targeted.

with officials who led the crackdown in Xinjiang, including former regional party secretary Chen Quanguo, now an official in Beijing.

Bachelet, a former president of Chile, plans to speak with high-level national and local officials, civil society organizations, representatives and academics, and deliver a lecture to students at Guangzhou University, her

office said.

Rights groups have called for more information and accountability from China over its policies in Tibet and Inner Mongolia that restrict minority cultural rights. A crackdown on freedoms in Hong Kong has also led the U.S. and others to impose sanctions on local and Chinese central government officials.

Amnesty International said Bachelet must "address crimes against humanity and gross human rights violations" during her trip.

"Michelle Bachelet's longdelayed visit to Xinjiang is a critical opportunity to address human rights violations in the region, but it will also be a running battle against Chinese government efforts to cover up the truth," Amnesty International Secretary General Agnes Callamard said in a statement.

"The U.N. must take steps to mitigate against this and resist being used to support blatant propaganda," Callamard said. Bachelet's trip comes ahead of the longawaited release of a report on the human rights situation in Xinjiang. Almost 200 rights groups have urged Bachelet to release her report, which diplomats have said has been ready or very close to it for months.U.S. State Department spokesperson Ned Price echoed that call last Friday, saying the U.S. and others have been calling for its release for months.

"The high commissioner's continued silence in the face of indisputable evidence of atrocities in Xinjiang and other human rights violations and abuses throughout the P.R.C. ... is deeply concerning, particularly as she is and should be the leading U.N. voice on human rights," Price said, using the acronym for the People's Republic of China.

He said the U.S. is "deeply concerned" about Bachelet's visit and has "no expectation that the P.R.C. will grant the necessary access required to conduct a complete, unmanipulated assessment of the human rights environment in Xinjiang."



Lone survivor of 2009 plane crash testifies in Paris court

By JADE LE DELEY **Associated Press**

PARIS (AP) — The lone survivor of a 2009 plane crash in the Indian Ocean took the stand Monday in a Paris courtroom, recounting her ordeal as a 12-year-old girl hearing screams, clinaina to floating debris and desperately hoping that her mother was still alive.

Bahia Bakari's mother was among 152 people who died on the flight operated by Yemen Airways, which is now known as Yemenia.

Composed throughout her testimony, Bakari cried as she mourned her mother's loss. Others in the courtroom broke down crying too.

Bakari, dressed all in white and praised for her bravery by judges and lawyers, delivered powerful testimony in a room heavy with emotion.

"We were landing, I started to feel some turbulence but people didn't seem worried about it. Then I felt an electrical shock and I woke up in the water. I don't remember what happened between sitting in the plane and being in the water. I have a black hole," Bakari said.

Yemen's national carrier is charged with manslaughter and unintentional injuries over the crash, which



Franco-Comoran Bahia Bakari stands in a courthouse in Paris, France, on May 9, 2022. **Associated Press**

occurred at 11:53 p.m., causing the deaths of 141 passengers and 11 crew members. Sixty-five of the dead were French citizens. Now 25, Bakari was 12 when she took the plane with her mother to go to Comoros off Africa's eastern coast to attend a wedding. The plane departed from Paris, made a stopover in the southern French city of Marseille and then landed in Sanaa. Bakari described switching to a smaller plane to go from the Yemeni capital to Moroni in the Comoros. It was a night flight and Bakari remembered that "everyone was exhausted."

After the plane plunged the ocean, she grasped a floating part of the destroyed plane and stayed in the water for 11 hours before being saved by fishermen.

Bakari remembered hearing "female voices which screamed for help in Comorian" at first. She then fell asleep and woke up alone: "It was so long. I almost gave up. I almost lost hope. Thinking about my mom helped me to hold up. I convinced myself that everyone except me made it home safe."

As the hours passed, she said, "I lost track of time when I was in the water."

After her rescue, Bakari was taken to the Moroni hospital then repatriated to France. Bakari suffered a broken collarbone, a broken hip, burns and other injuries.

Today, "I don't suffer any physical effects, but my mother is gone. I was very close to her," she said, in tears.

The young woman, who now works in real estate, has two younger siblings and relied mostly on her father who helped her deal with the trauma. She didn't seek therapy after leaving the hospital.

"I didn't feel comfortable talking to a stranger. I was close with my family," she

Bakari said she is "doing much better now," and resumed flying two years after the crash.

She said she doesn't suffer traumatic flashbacks, but she isn't at ease in the wa-

Bakari couldn't attend her mother's funeral because she was still in the hospital, but said she considered herself lucky because her mother's body was identified, and she had a proper grave.

Bakari, who describes herself as "a proud Comorian," stood with the more than 250 plaintiffs, who mostly come from Comoros, in a packed courtroom. The trial was broadcast live in a courtroom in Marseille, where many victims came from.

She co-wrote a book "Bahia, the Miracle Girl," and told the court she did it for the victim's' relatives, to "leave them something to hold on to."

Despite the pain of reliving the memories, she said she felt relieved to have a trial, even so many years later.

7 die in Philippine ferry fire; over 120 rescued from water

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — the northeastern Philippines many survivors to jump into

A ferry carrying more than on Monday, killing seven 130 people caught fire in passengers and forcing



In this handout provided by the Philippine Coast Guard, smoke billows from ferry M/V Mercraft 2 as it's towed to an island off of the town of Real. Quezon province. Philippines on Monday. May 23, 2022.

Associated Press

the sea where they were rescued by other vessels.

The fire rapidly spread from the engine room to the upper passenger deck of the M/V Mercraft 2 while it was approaching a port in Real, town administrator Filomena Portales said. It had been en route to the town in Quezon province from Polillo Island.

Many of the 134 passengers and crew jumped into the water and were plucked from the sea by motorboats and cargo vessels, coast guard officials said. "Fishing boats and other vessels were able to approach quickly and everybody helped, so the rescue was fast," Portales said by telephone, adding that many of those rescued were in shock and had to be treated for burns and bruises and given dry clothes and shoes.

Pictures released by the coast guard showed fire engulfing the ferry and dark smoke billowing from it. Injured survivors on stretchers were taken to waiting ambulances while a rescuer tried to revive an unconscious survivor by pressing on his chest.

The coast guard said everyone on the ferry had been accounted for and 24 people who were injured were taken to a hospital.

Portales said seven passengers died from burns and drowning and one possibly had a heart attack while floating in the water.

Investigators were looking into the fire, and other ferries operated by the owner of Mercraft 2 would likely be suspended from operating while undergoing safety inspections, officials said. The wreckage was towed to shore in Real.

Sea accidents are common in the Philippine archipelago because of frequent storms, badly maintained boats, overcrowding and weak enforcement of safety regulations. In December 1987, the ferry Dona Paz sank after colliding with a fuel tanker, killing more than 4,300 people in the world's worst peacetime maritime disaster.

Zimbabwe opens conference to promote sales of elephant ivory

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Zimbabwe has opened an international conference to try to win international support for its campaign to be allowed to sell its stockpile of seized ivory.

If the southern African country is not permitted to sell off its 130 tons of ivory, estimated to be worth \$600 million, officials warn it may quit the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, CITES.

The three-day conference started Monday at Hwange National Park, the country's largest wildlife park which is in southwestern Zimbabwe. Representatives from 16 African countries, as well as Japan and China, major consumers of ivory, are to attend the gathering, said officials.

Last week envoys from some European Union countries, Britain, the United States and Canada were guided through heavily guarded vaults in Harare that are filled with piles of elephant tusks to win international support for legal sales of the ivory.

Zimbabwe's effort to sell that ivory is controversial with many conservation groups opposing it, saying any sale of ivory encourages poaching of the pachy-



A Zimbabwe National Parks official holds an elephant tusk during a tour of the ivory stockpiles in Harare, Monday, May, 16, 2022.

Associated Press

derms.

The conference "is sending a dangerous signal to poachers and criminal syndicates that elephants are mere commodities, and that ivory trade could be resumed, heightening the threat to the species," said a coalition of 50 wildlife and animal rights organizations from across the globe in a joint statement issued Monday.

Southern African countries have twice been permitted

to sell off their ivory stocks to Japan and China in 1997 and 2008 and those limited sales resulted in "a sharp escalation" in poaching across the continent, said the letter.

"Legalizing the ivory trade, including by authorizing another 'one-off' sale could have similarly disastrous consequences," the groups said.

Zimbabwe argues that its elephant population is growing rapidly at between 5% to 8% per year, a rate it says is unsustainable. Zimbabwe savs it desperately needs the funds from the sales of the ivory to manage its elephant population, which it says has grown to a "dangerous" size.

Zimbabwe's estimated 100,000 elephants are double the carrying capacity of its national parks, say parks officials. The overcrowded elephants are destroying the trees and shrubs that are vital for them and other

Neighboring Botswana has the world's largest elephant population with more than 130,000. Together Zimbabwe and Botswana have nearly 50% of the world's elephants. The two countries say they are struggling to cope with the booming numbers.

Opposition is coming from Kenya and other members of the African Elephant Coalition, whose 32 members are mostly East and West African countries that have fewer elephants. They argue that reopening legal international trade in ivory trade, even for a single auction, would result in increased poaching.

CITES banned the international ivory trade in 1989 to curtail poaching. In addition to banning ivory sales, CITES in 2019 also imposed restrictions on the sales of wild elephants caught in Zimbabwe and Botswana, a move that pleased some conservationists but dismayed officials struggling to manage their overcrowded parks.

There is a flourishing illegal trade in ivory in which international syndicates fund poachers to kill elephants and saw off their ivory tusks.

Migrant back home after 7 years in Mexico jail with no trial

By SONIA PÉREZ D. **Associated Press**

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) -An Indigenous migrant who was accused of kidnapping and jailed in a northern Mexico border city returned to her homeland of Guatemala on Sunday as a free woman after spending more than seven years in prison without a trial.

A Mexican court ordered the immediate release of Juana Alonzo Santizo, 35, on Saturday.

against her, said Netzaí Sandoval, head of Mexico's federal public defenders office. Sandoval, whose office took charge in "pre-trial detention." of defending Alonzo in 2021, contends she was tortured and forced to sign a

couldn't speak Spanish...

The Mayan Chuj woman left her village, San Mateo Ixtatán, in 2014 seeking to migrate to the United States, he said. She was detained by immigration officials while in Reynosa, a Mexican border city across from McAllen, Texas, and one of the main smuggling points in Tamaulipas state. Police then accused her of kidnapping and put her in jail, Sandoval said. He The court ruled there was said the charges were not no consistent evidence translated into her Chuj language until this year.

She never was convicted, having never been tried, and was held all that time

An advocacy campaign for her freedom was supported by national and inconfession that she did not ternational groups and by

understand because she Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, and the Tamaulipas prosecutor office withdrew the charges against her.

> "It is a totally aberrant case," Sandoval said. All her rights were violated the Guatemala City airport

because "she is a woman, she is an Indigenous person, she is a migrant, she is poor, and she didn't speak Spanish."

An emotional Alonzo was greeted by her family at

on Sunday, and she collapsed into her father's and her uncle's arms. Her relatives helped her change from jeans into traditional regional clothes.

"It is easy to go to prison, but it is difficult to get out of it," Alonzo said in haltina Spanish, which she learned while in in prison.

"We are not stones, we are not plastic things." she added.

Pedro Alonzo, an uncle, said she had migrated in hopes of helping her family. "Her crime was being unable to speaking Spanish. Who is going to pay for that scar?" he said.

According to statistics from Mexico's federal government, 43% of the people held in the country's prisons have not been convicted or sentenced.



Guatemalan migrant Juana Alonso Santizo arrives at La Aurora international airport in Guatemala City, Sunday, May 22, 2022. **Associated Press**



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Locations: The Cove Mall (8:00 AM - 6:00 PM) Medcare near Courtyard by Marriott (8:00 AM - 2:00 PM)

Aruba Hi-Winds is back



Oranjestad - Get ready for the 34th edition taking place this week from May 25-30th.

Aruba Hi-Winds introduces fun and action with it's 34th edition, where there will be multiples races for the community of Aruba along with our visitors to enjoy and be a part of.

The many races that are featured in this event are

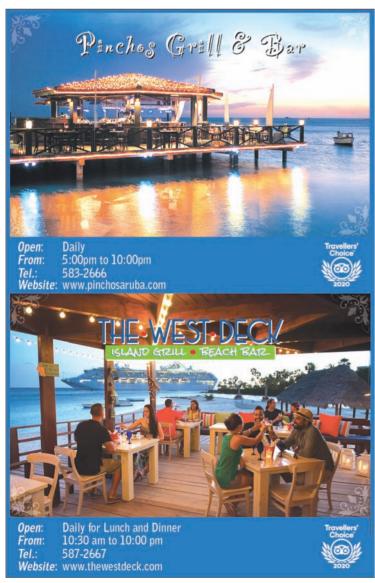
Kitesurfing races, Windsurfing races, IFCA (International Funboard Class Association) Windsurfing races, Mountain-bike races and kids races.

Along with the races there will be live bands playing, as well as many parties and events with DJ's playing and much more.

On Wednesday they will start with the check-in at 2pm of the IFCA 2022 Pan American/South can Slalom Championships, Kitesurfing/Kite Foil Championships, Windsurfing Freestyle Champioships and the Wing Foil Championships. The opening ceremony will be held at 6pm followed by dinner and live band performances and DJ. Followed by 4 days full of actions and races at the Fishersmanhut. Every year Aruba Hi-Winds has the best party on the beach!

The price giving ceremony will be on Monday May 30, 2022 at Paseo Herencia. Don't miss this.

On the official website for Aruba Hi-Winds competitors can still register for the upcoming races, and the community and our visitors can use the website to see the race/competition schedule as well as when the events and parties will take place.







Be the first to own a Rooftop Suite

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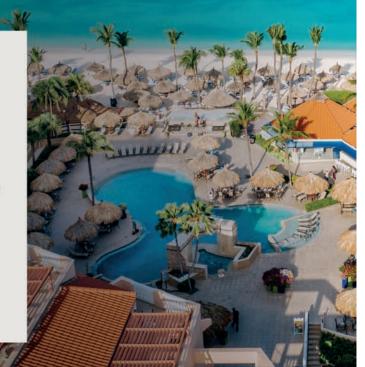
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For more details, please visit: Playa Linda | Timeshare-overview or contact: info@playalinda.com





Introduction of a Rooftop Suite category Playa Linda capitalizes on extraordinary Island views



PALM BEACH – Innovation and a high standard of guest service, amenities as well as room product has been an ongoing focus during Playa Linda Beach Resort's almost 40-year history in hospitality. As one of the first beachside resorts on Palm Beach, it is already blessed with an excellent location, on which the resort is capitalizing with the introduction of its new suite category – its Rooftop Suites -- that offers a bird's-eye view in appreciating a wide expanse of picturesque Palm Beach, Caribbean Sea and sky.

The creation of the Two-Bedroom Rooftop Suites expands Playa Linda's already diverse choice of how best to enjoy valuable vacation time. Suite comforts include fully equipped kitchens and a variety of options ranging from studio, one- and two-bedrooms, lanai suites, townhomes and penthouse accommodations, which all feature balconies with extraordinary views. The newly introduced Rooftop Suite option represents a deluxe suite category, with only two such units on the top, eighth floor, and each offering almost 360-degree views. The suites also boast two bedrooms, two full baths, walk-in closet and balcony in the Master Bedroom and a wrap-around balcony off the open kitchen and dining room as well as access to washer and dryer. The first-rate room amenities provide an upscale experience at a resort that is already well loved for its family-friendly, welcoming environment, and its abundance of things-to-do offerings and places to dine on property and nearby.

"We are excited to be able to offer this opportunity, and are not surprised that it has already generated a great deal of interest in advance sales with more than 50% of the fixed weeks already sold," remarks General Manager Peter van Grinsven. "Our occupancy is often at sold-out status, and we have very limited inventory on available weeks, so it makes sense that people are acting quickly to grab their spot with the introduction of a brand-new Rooftop Suite category."

Prospective Rooftop Suite owners are drawn to the excellent location, luxury suite features and the lure of an exceptional view from an exclusive 8th floor perch. But is Playa Linda Beach Resort's time-proven ability to deliver an outstanding vacation experience that is its greatest attraction. It consistently rates among the top 10% of hotels worldwide, according to Tripadvisor® Travellers' Choice. At the heart of the popular timeshare's success has been the sense of family it fosters among owners, guests as well as employees, and its capacity for creating limitless, life-long happy vacation memories. For more information, please visit www.playalinda.com or reach out via email at info@playalinda.com.

Playa Linda Beach Resort Aruba sits beachside on world famous Palm Beach, and at the center of the island's best selection of dining, shopping and activity options. It's 215 spacious suites -- featuring eleven different suite categories, each with fully-equipped kitchens - and resort amenities including on-property laundry facilities, two pools, two Jacuzzis, concierge services, daily activity program and varied dining and shopping options, create an upscale, community-centered environment for families, couples and friend groups seeking Aruba hospitality at its finest.







Sea turtle conservation by Turtugaruba Foundation



ORANJESTAD — Turtugaruba was founded on September 3rd, 2003 by a group of enthusiastic volunteers. Ten years earlier, in 1993, a Sea Turtle Recovery Action Plan (STRAP) was introduced in Aruba and the rest of the Caribbean as an initiative of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). Tom Barmes, who was working at DLVV (Deptartment of Agriculture, Husbandry and Fishery) was one of the writers of the STRAP for Aruba, together with Karen Eckert, director of WIDECAST (Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network). This is how sea turtle conservation started on the island following a plan that is still complied with today.

Tom formed a group of volunteers around him, because nature does not know office hours, like an organization such as DLVV. This group of volunteers used the name Widecast Aruba and today there are still a few of them active. They first started protecting the Leatherback Sea Turtle nests on Palm Beach and Eagle Beach. This group also investigated which other species of sea turtles use Aruba as their nesting habitat and which beaches are used by them. For a period of 25 years a study has been conducted in which every early morning the beach was being monitored in which now there is a good overview of sea turtle nesting activities.

There are 4 different sea turtle species that visit Aruba to lay their eggs, each with their own specific season:

- Leatherback Sea Turtle Lederschildpad Driekiel (March September)
- Loggerhead Sea Turtle Dikkopschildpad -Cawama (May – September)
- Hawksbill Sea Turtle Karetschildpad Caret (June – December)
- Green Turtle Soepschildpad Turtuga Blanco (July-November)

There also came a better understanding and overview of the biggest threats to the sea turtles existence in Aruba and how these problems should be tackled. Despite hard work, all those years, most problems have not really gone away, but luckily and thanks to the enormous efforts from the volunteers, the sea turtles are still here. On Aruba the sea turtles are threatened with extinction by pollution, driving on dunes and beaches with quads and 4x4's and the loss of nesting beaches due to coastal development on behalf of tourism. Because coastal development comes with artificial light and artificial light is a mayor issue for sea turtles, mother turtle usually comes on shore at night looking for a dark beach to make her nest. However... a dark beach is hard to find here nowadays. Light causes stress and can result in her returning to the sea without laying her eggs. Artificial light causes disorientation for the baby sea turtles (hatchlings).

They crawl towards artificial light sources (like streetlights, hotel lights, etc.) and then they don't find the sea. In the 90's it was still a common occurrence to find a complete nest of

about 70 hatchlings on the streets, dead, as cars drove over them. Thanks to their protection methods and a lot of time and effort, the volunteers of Turtugaruba have managed to get this under control. But for a sustainable solution there must be less light visible on the beaches and a strict regulation of it. Sea turtles simply need dark nesting beaches for their survival. It is clear that even more coastal development would not make the situation better for the sea turtles. Again, more hotel rooms? And even busier beaches? These are choices Aruba has to make. Do we want to leave a place for the sea turtles? Not only Aruba, but the entire world needs sea turtles! Sea turtles play a vital role in keeping our oceans healthy.

The Green Turtle, for example, keeps the sea grasses on the bottom of the sea short and therefore a healthy place for many fish to deposit their eggs. The Leatherback, the largest turtle of the world, eats mainly jellyfish and helps maintain the balance between jellyfish and plankton. Despite the threats that exist on Aruba, the turtles still keep coming. That's why today Turtugaruba is especially proud of the volunteers and the many people and organizations of our community that carry a warm place in their hearts for the sea turtles. All four species are active now, which means all hands on deck in the field for us, the volunteers. We strive to keep the sea turtles, our oldest 'repeat guests', always coming back to Aruba and get the chance to reproduce here.

What you can do to protect the sea turtles

- Lights out for sea turtles.
- Do not drive on beaches.
- Do not litter. Do not leave any plastic cups, straws or bags on the beach.
- Remove obstacles from the beach.
- Do not disturb a nesting sea turtle. Do not attempt to touch the turtle but stay at a respectful distance (at least 10 meters).
- Do call Turtugaruba (24 hour Turtle Hotline: (297) 5929393).

For more information visit the facebook page Turtugaruba Foundation.





How to make more green at your next yard sale

By LIZ WESTON of NerdWallet

A successful yard sale involves hours of preparation and plenty of hard work. So does an unsuccessful sale. I've had both kinds and can confidently say the version that makes money is better.

If you're ready to take advantage of warmer weather and the opportunity to declutter, consider these tips culled from experts (and bitter experience) for having a good sale.

DETERMINE YOUR GOALS

First, consider whether a yard sale is the right method for your goals. Yard sales and their cousins garage, estate, moving and tag sales can help you get rid of stuff and raise some cash. But you can't expect to get top dollar.

If making money is your priority and you have time to wait for buyers, consider offering your more valuable items elsewhere. Check out auction sites such as eBay; apps including Letgo and OfferUp; platforms like Craigslist, Nextdoor or Facebook Marketplace; and consignment stores or even pawnshops.

If you just want to get stuff out of your house, donating your unwanted goods is usually the fastest and easiest option. (You'll get a tax break for your donation only if you're one of the few who itemize deductions.) If your goals are relatively balanced you want more



This undated file photo provided by NerdWallet shows Liz Weston, a columnist for personal finance website NerdWallet.com. **Associated Press**

space and more money, for several hours' worth of work a yard sale may be the best option.

GO BIG

Consider enlisting at least one other household that can contribute helpers and stuff for your sale. Shoppers want to see a wide variety of goods there's a reason many yard sale ads use the headline "Multifamily sale!"

and the whole experience is a lot more fun with friends. Tools, kitchen gadgets, sporting goods and camping gear are often the best draws, says Chris Heiska, who has operated the yardsalequeen.com site since 1996. What usually doesn't sell: anything broken or badly stained. Outdated technology can be hit or miss. Our friends

VCR tapes or Princess telephone . But vinyl records can be hot sellers.

Expect to spend several hours collecting, sorting and pricing your items. Pricing is essential many people won't ask what something costs, so you'll be losing sales if there's no sticker, Heiska says. You can find lists of suggested yard sale prices online or check other sales in your area. When in doubt, Heiska suggests pricing something at one-quarter to one-third of what the item costs new. In some areas, 10% to 20% of the original cost is often the

"You have to think of your shoppers," says professional organizer Cyndi Seidler of Los Angeles, who manages estate and moving sales for clients. "They don't go to these things to pay retail prices."

Pro tip: Price as you go, so you're not trying to do it all right before the crowds arrive. You can use masking tape and a Sharpie, but I invested \$8 in a big package of pre-marked pricing stickers ordered online. Each of the three sellers used a different color, which made it easy to keep track on the day of the sale. We also procured some change: quarters, singles and a few larger bills. How much we started with is a matter of dispute; I'll get to that later.

GET THE WORD OUT

Craigslist is a good place

found no takers for their to advertise your sale for free, but it shouldn't be the only site. That's the mistake I made with the yard sale that flopped a few years ago, with few attendees and even fewer sales. One of those attendees explained that veteran shoppers check the sites devoted to yard and garage sales. (Search for "yard sales near me" to see which ones pop up and offer free listings.)

> This time, we advertised on a few of those sites plus Craigslist, Nextdoor and Facebook Marketplace. We also used some of our social media accounts to let local friends know about our sale. We employed oldschool signage as well: bright yellow yard sale signs, scored from a dollar store and duct-taped at several local intersections with the address, date and time drawn large enough for passing drivers to easily see.

> We also made our sale "a shopping experience," in Seidler's words. That meant borrowing tables and clothes racks from friends to keep things off the ground, grouping like items together and, toward the end, creating bundles of items and slashing prices. For example, we scooped all the leftover craft items into a box and sold the lot for \$5. (By this point in the day, I no longer cared whose items were whose; I just wanted it all off my driveway.)

Video game workers create first union at big U.S. game maker

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Video The unionization campaign game workers at a division of game publisher Activision Blizzard have voted to unionize, creating the first labor union at a large U.S. video game company.

A count of ballots on Monday revealed the results of the election affecting a small group of Wisconsinbased quality assurance testers at Activision Blizzard's Raven Software, which develops the popular Call of Duty game franchise. The tally was 19-3.

by employees at Raven's office in Middleton, Wisconsin, was part of a broader internal shakeup at Activision Blizzard, a Santa tions that management Monica, California-based ignored sexual harassment gaming giant with roughly and workplace discrimina-10,000 employees worldwide.

The game publisher which buying for nearly \$69 billion has been under intense public scrutiny since Calisued it last year over an in ballots on Monday af-

alleged "frat boy" culture that discriminated against women. It recently settled a separate federal civil rights lawsuit over allegation against female employees.

Microsoft has said it Microsoft is in the process of wouldn't interfere in any unionization efforts.

The Milwaukee office of the National Labor Relations fornia's civil rights agency Board counted the mailed-



The Activision Blizzard Booth is shown on June 13, 2013, during the Electronic Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

ternoon via video confer- sion's push to have it en-

tion after rejecting Activi- unionizing group's vote.

compass a wider category A regional NLRB director of Raven workers, which had ordered a May elec- could have diluted the



CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

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12 Silly 13 Engaged in parliamentary procedure

15 Finish 16 Fellow **17** "My country of thee"

18 Calmed down 20 Walking

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23 Long look 25 Cavalry base

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37 Debuted to great acclaim



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42	\vdash						43		+	

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-24 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

S X ZRNG'S SULGS

UJSZP UDDEKUSNP LGSED

S X ZQNL'AZ BPNWWZR

BPZZF. — RUG PUSXZP

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: MARRIAGE IS NOT JUST SPIRITUAL COMMUNION; IT IS ALSO REMEMBERING TO TAKE OUT THE TRASH. — DR. JOYCE BROTHERS

South Asia's intense heat wave a 'sign of things to come'



A construction worker walks across a mirage created on a road following a heat weave, in New Delhi, Monday, May 2, 2022. A construction worker walks across a mirage created on a road following a heat weave, in New Delhi, Monday, May 2, 2022.

Associated Press

By ANIRUDDHA GHOSAL **AP Science Writer**

NEW DELHI (AP) — The devastating heat wave which has baked India and Pakistan in recent months was made more likely due to climate change, according to an international group of scientists. This, they say, is a alimpse of what the future holds for the region.

The World Weather Attribution group analyzed weather data from the region dating back 70 years and suggested in a study Monday that a heatwave like this one that sets in early, lasts a long time and impacts a massive geographical area is still a rare, a once-in-a-centuryevent. But the warming of the world by 1.2 degrees Celsius (2.2 degrees Fahrenheit) since pre-industrial levels because of humancaused climate change has made it 30 times more

If warming increases to 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit), then heat waves like this could occur twice in a century or even once every five years, said Arpita Mondal, a climate scientist at the Indian

Institute of Technology in Mumbai, who was part of the study.

"This is a sign of things to come," Mondal said.

The results are conservative: An analysis published last week by the United Kinadom's Meteorological Office said the heat wave was probably made 100 times more likely by climate change, with such scorching temperatures likely to reoccur every three years. The World Weather Attribution analysis is different as it is trying to calculate how specific aspects of the heat wave, such as the length and the region impacted, were made more likely by global warming. "The real result is probably somewhere between ours and the (U.K.) Met Office result for how much climate change increased this event," said Friederike Otto, a climate scientist at the Imperial College of London, who was also a part of the study.

What is certain, though, is the devastation the heat wave has wreaked. India sweltered through the hottest March in the country since records began in 1901 and April was the warmest on record in Pakistan and parts of India. The effects have been cascading and widespread: A glacier burst in Pakistan, sending floods downstream; the early heat scorched wheat crops in India, forcing it to ban exports to nations reeling from food shortages due to Russia's war in Ukraine; it also resulted in an early spike in electricity demand in India that depleted coal reserves, resulting in acute power shortages affecting millions.

Then there is the impact on human health.

At least 90 people have died in the two nations, but the region's insufficient death registration means that this is likely an undercount.

South Asia is the most affected by heat stress, according to an analysis by The Associated Press of a dataset published Columbia University's climate school. India alone is home to more than a third of the world's population that lives in areas where extreme heat is rising.

Experts agree the heat wave underscores need for the world to not just combat climate change by cutting down greenhouse gas emissions, but to also adapt to its harmful impacts as quickly as possible. Children and the elderly are most at risk from heat stress, but its impact is also inordinately bigger for the poor who may not have access to cooling or water and often live in crowded slums that are hotter than leafier, wealthier neighborhoods. Rahman Ali, 42, a ragpicker

in an eastern suburb of the Indian capital New Delhi earns less than \$3 a day by collecting waste from people's homes and sorting it to salvage whatever can be sold. It's backbreaking work and his tin-roofed home in the crowded slum offers little respite from the

"What can we do? If I don't work...we won't eat," said the father-of-two.



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World Food Program chief presses billionaires 'to step up'

By JAMEY KEATEN **Associated Press** DAVOS, Switzerland (AP)

— The head of the U.N.'s World Food Program is telling billionaires it's "time to step up" as the global threat of food insecurity

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David Beasley, Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme, arrives to a UN Security Council Meeting on Food Insecurity and Conflict, Thursday, May 19, 2022, at United Nations headquarters.

Associated Press

rises with Russia's war in Ukraine, saying he's seen encouraging signs from some of the world's richest people, like Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos. Agency Executive Director David Beasley built upon a social media back-and-forth he had with Musk last year, when the Tesla CEO challenged policy advocates to show how a \$6 billion donation sought by the U.N. agency could solve world hunger.

Since then, "Musk put \$6 billion into a foundation. But everybody thought it came to us, but we ain't gotten any of it yet. So I'm hopeful," Beasley told The Associated Press at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, where some of the world's biggest elites and billionaires have gathered.

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When purple reigned: A 1985 Prince concert finds a new life

By MARK KENNEDY
AP Entertainment Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — The first
thing you hear is a familiar voice over the sound
of thousands of screaming

"Hello, Syracuse and the world. My name is Prince and I've come to play with you."

The Purple One soon arrives, rising up through the stage wearing an animal print jumpsuit with a ruffled white frock, a guitar slug across his back as "Let's Go Crazy" starts. "Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today..." he says.

It's the electric beginning of a high-energy concert in upstate New York held more than three decades ago, reworked and re-released on video and audio capturing Prince & The Revolution at their peak.

"It was as amazing as I remember it was," says Lisa Coleman, a Revolution member who was there that night singing and playing keys. Adds drummer Bobby Z: "The next generation needs to see this because this is what it was all about."

The March 30, 1985, concert at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse, New York, included the songs "Delirious," "1999," "Little Red Corvette," "Take Me Home," "Let's Pretend We're Married," "Computer Blue," "When Doves Cry" and "I



Prince performs at the Forum in Inglewood, Calif., on Feb. 18, 1985.

Associated Press

Would Die 4 U," among others.

It closes with a sensual, knock-out "Purple Rain," with Prince in a shimmering cloak delivering a solo that lasts several minutes and shows off an immensely talented guitarist.

"You can tell that he knows what he's doing there he is lighting up the world. He always played it like there was no tomorrow. But that one is especially moving," says Bobby Z.

"Prince and The Revolution: Live" will be released June 3 in a variety of formats, including digital streaming platforms, a three-LP vinyl version, a two-CD version and a Blu-ray of the concert film.

There's also a limited edition box set featuring three colored LPs, two CDs, the Blu-ray video, a 44-page book with never-beforeseen photos of the Purple Rain Tour, and new liner notes penned by all five members of the Revolution. "I was so proud of him and the band we put together and everything at that moment and the fact that it lives on and that this beautiful project is coming out is something special," says Bobby Z, a Prince friend since they met in 1976. "That band is cooking like a freight train."

Prince fans have another reason to be happy this summer: "Prince: The Immersive Experience" makes its worldwide debut on June 9 in Chicago. It offers visitors the chance to explore his wardrobe, music influences and hits.

The Syracuse concert came at the end of a 100-odd date tour and Prince and the band are by this time a tight and sleek machine, piggybacking off the wild success of the film

"Purple Rain."

"I do feel like it was a pearl amonast a really areat necklace," says Wendy Melvoin, a guitarist and singer in the Revolution. "The only difference was that it was being televised worldwide. And there was a bit more pressure on us to kind of up our game."Over the course of the performance, Prince makes several costume changes, jumps around the set's scaffolding, strips down to just pants and necklaces, writhes suggestively in a bathtub and drives the crowd crazy with such lines as: "Do you want me?"

The gig was an early payper-view event and was nominated for a Grammy Award for best longform music video. The concert was later put out on VHS but the quality of the audio and visuals were poor.

"I'm really excited for a next generation of Prince fans to see what it was all about.

He wasn't, you know, just some average guy. This was a seriously talented, unbelievable dancer, singer, bandleader, showman, composer, musician.

This was a one-in-a-billion individual," says Bobby Z. Melvoin says die-hard Prince fans may have already seen bootleg versions but hopes that the new album and film can inspire other artists.

Cannes: Transylvania-set 'R.M.N.' probes a ubiquitous crisis



Orsolya Moldovan, from left, Marin Grigore, Macrina Barladeanu, director Cristian Mungiu, Judith State, and Maria Dragus pose for photographers upon arrival at the premiere of the film 'R.M.N.' at the 75th international film festival, Cannes, southern France, Saturday, May 21, 2022.

Associated Press

By JAKE COYLE AP Film Writer CANNES, France (AP) —

Cristian Mungiu's Cannes Film Festival entry "R.M.N." is set in an unnamed mountainous Transylvanian village in Romania, but the conflicts of ethnocentricity, racism and nationalism that permeate the multiethnic town could take place almost anywhere.

Of all the films competing for the top Palme d'Or prize at Cannes, none may be quite as of the moment as "R.M.N." The movie, using a Romanian microcosm, captures the us-vs-them battles that have played out across Europe and be-

yond, wherever immigration and national identities have collided.

Mungiu, the celebrated Romanian filmmaker of the landmark 2007 abortion drama "4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days," has long been accustomed to his films being written off as grim portraits of a faraway Eastern Europe. It's a caricature he rejects, especially when it comes to "R.M.N."

"Whenever journalists interpret that it's yet again another somber painting of this country, well, it's not about that country or not only about that country," Mungiu told reporters Sunday. "It's good to check your own elections in your own countries."

When a local bakery in need of workers most of the town's men have gone abroad to find work hires a few men from Sri Lanka, a Romanian village's already complicated mix of ethnicities Romanian, Hungarian, German turn increasingly volatile. But "R.M.N.," which features a powerhouse 17-minute single shot of a contentious town meeting, from the start teases at the question of who, exactly, is an outsider and who gets to define tradition. In the end, even the village's local bears could be said to have their say.



Osaka loses in 1st round of French Open, may skip Wimbledon

By HOWARD FENDRICH **AP Tennis Writer**

PARIS (AP) — A year ago, Naomi Osaka left the French Open of her own volition, never beaten on the court but determining that she needed to pull out before the second round to stand up for herself and protect her mind.

On Monday, Osaka departed Roland Garros against her will via a 7-5, 6-4 loss in the first round to 20-year-old American Amanda Anisimova, who is seeded 27th and also won their contest at the Australian Open in January after taking a painkiller to try to deal with a troublesome left Achilles tendon. She tried to stretch the tendon by tugging on her neon yellow shoes at changeovers or by squatting to flex her lower leg between points. Osaka was unable to summon the serving or court coverage on which her game is based, in part her practice time and recent match play have been limited. The four-time Grand Slam champion and former No. 1-ranked player, who is now ranked No. 38 and was unseeded in Paris, double-faulted twice to end games and called the outcome "disappointing." Yet she also provided a measure of the way in which her mindset might have changed since her tions that I left France (with)



Japan's Naomi Osaka leaves after losing against Amanda Anisimova of the U.S. during their first round match at the French Open tennis tournament in Roland Garros stadium in Paris, France, Monday, May 23, 2022.

previous appearance at the clay-court major tournament, when she decided not to speak to the media at all (drawing a \$15,000 fine and threat of further punishment, which prompted her withdrawal), saying that stance was because of anxiety and depression she hadn't previously revealed. Her openness back then helped spark a wider awareness of, and conversation about, the importance of mental health.

"I'm really happy with myself," Osaka said Monday, "because I know the emolast year."

Barbora Krejcikova also was aware of the wide spectrum of emotions she went through herself at the French Open from 2021 when she was a Grand Slam singles champion for the first time to 2022when she joined Osaka in departing in the first round.

Krejcikova was seeded No. 2, but she was coming off an injured right elbow that kept her off the tour since February, and her first match back began with a 4-0 lead before unraveling into a 1-6, 6-2, 6-3 exit against Diane Parry, a champs Petra Kvitova, Vic-

Associated Press

19-year-old from France who is ranked 97th and entered the day with a 1-5 career record in Grand Slam matches.

Krejcikova said she "hit the wall" early in the second set and never recovered, becoming just the third woman in French Open history to be defeated in her opening match a year after winning the title.

There weren't any other such significant results on Day 2, when the women's winners included No. 1 Iga Swiatek, the 2020 champion; and other past major

toria Azarenka and Bianca Andrescu. In men's matches, 13-time champion Rafael Nadal won in three sets and No. 13 seed Taylor Fritz won in five.

Defending champion Novak Djokovic was scheduled to play at night.

Merely conducting news conferences, before the tournament on Friday and after this loss, were a step forward for Osaka. She was comfortable addressing all sorts of topics, including her difficulties on clay and grass courts, the fact that she is leaning toward skipping Wimbledon because there won't be ranking points offered there and the increased attention to protecting athletes' wellbeing even if the strides made over the past 12 months are not necessarily enough.

"I mean, I feel like there is always more to do. You can't progress and then just stop. You know what I'm saying? There always has to be evolution," Osaka said.

"But I feel like, as of right now, they are trying their best, and I think it's really nice to see."

While Osaka's best performances have come on hard courts, Anisimova's best showing at a Slam came on the red clay of Roland Garros, where she reached the 2019 semifinals at 17. 🔲

AP source: Commanders buy Va. land for possible stadium site

By STEPHEN WHYNO **AP Sports Writer**

The Washington Commanders have bought land in Woodbridge, Virginia, for what could be a potential site of the NFL team's next stadium, according to a person with knowledge of the situation.

The person spoke to The tion of anonymity Monday because the team had not announced the acquisition. The Commanders paid approximately \$100 million for 200 acres of land in Prince William County and are still considering other locations in the District of Columbia,

Maryland and Virginia, the Bowl has long been considperson said.

This site is just over 20 miles outside D.C., about a 45-minute drive from RFK Stadium, which was the team's home from 1961-1996. The Commanders' current lease at FedEx Field in Landover, Maryland, expires in 2027.

Associated Press on condi- ESPN, which first reported the sale, added that the site is the team's preferred choice for a 60,000-seat domed stadium that would be available for use yearround and include a practice facility and amphitheater. Building a stadium that could host a Super

ered one of the organization's goals.

Owner Dan Snyder and Co. have been looking at several possible sites in D.C., Maryland and Virginia, though the specter of investigations into the team's finances clouded how those jurisdictions might handle helping him finance a stadium. The Maryland House last month approved a \$400 million plan to develop the area around FedEx Field that did not include money for a new stadium. Virginia lawmakers failed to pass legislation that would make it favorable for the



Dan Snyder, co-owner and co-CEO of the Washinaton Commanders, poses for photos during an event to unveil the NFL football team's new identity, Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022, in Landover, Md.

Associated Press

Commanders to build their next stadium there.



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Indy 500 a showcase of IndyCar's growing strength

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The speeds have been insane — 234 mph for Scott Dixon in a record-breaking run for the pole — and Jimmie Johnson and Romain Grosjean are both part of the fastest field in the history of the Indianapolis 500.

Some 20 drivers, maybe more, are legitimate contenders to win Sunday in front of a crowd expected to swell past 300,000. Roger Penske can finally fully open the gates at Indianapolis Motor Speedway for the first time since he purchased the iconic venue just weeks before the start of the pandemic.

After years of trying to establish itself as one of the top series in motorsports, IndyCar is having its moment and "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing" just might live up to its name.

"I think IndyCar is the most competitive open-wheel series in the world," said Will Power, the Australian who won the Indy 500 in 2018. "It's more competitive than Formula One is, it just is, and you don't have to take my word for it.

"Just look at the math: sixtenths (of a second) covers 23 cars in practice. Sixtenths covers how many cars in Formula One? One or two cars? That's no joke." the close competition across the entire grid, he's not talking about a recent phenomenon. A series born during a bitter war among the controlling parties in American open-wheel racing led to the 1996 creation of IndyCar — then called



Fans watch during practice for the Indianapolis 500 auto race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Monday, May 23, 2022, in Indianapolis.

Associated Press

the Indy Racing League fledgling racers.

Buzz Calkins and Scott Sharp shared the first championship after the inaugural three-race season, and Tony Stewart won the 1997 title before he began his migration to NASCAR. The IRL was up and running but CART was still king — CART was once far bigger than NASCAR or any other North American motorsports series — and Penske When Power references and Chip Ganassi and all the other big guns shunned Tony George and his weird little series.

George, however owned Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the Indianapolis 500, and when he created the IRL out of frustration with CART, it fractured open-

wheel racing in America. and its rag-tag bunch of The big teams boycotted Indianapolis — CART raced head-to-head with the Indy 500 in 1996 at Michigan, Jimmy Vasser won and asked "Who needs milk?" in victory lane — and didn't start their slow return for almost five years.

Penske didn't return to Indy until 2001 and last week he told The Associated Press that is the biggest regret of his racing career.

George prevailed because he owned the crown jewel speedway located at 16th Street and Georgetown Road in Indianapolis. In 2008, CART, rebranded as Champ Car, finally merged with the IRL to create Indy-Car. But the damage was done: The series had been lapped by NASCAR in pres-

tige and IndyCar has been clawing its way back to relevance ever since.

Under Penske, who agreed in late 2019 to buy both the series and the speedway from George's family, the series is taking its biggest leaps yet.

"I don't think there's any doubt about it that there's been only upward growth and trajectory," said twotime IndyCar champion and Team Penske driver Josef Newgarden. "I really feel the momentum picking up the last two, three years, and we have some of the best custodians looking after the series and the speedway in Roger and Penske Entertainment."

IndyCar speeds into the Indy 500 with four different winners through its first five races. When Dixon on Sunday blazed to a fourlap qualifying average of 234.046 mph (376.661 kph), it broke Scott Brayton's record from 1996 as the fastest pole-winning run in track history. It also made Dixon the sixth pole winner in six races.

The 33-driver field is the fastest in race history with an average speed of 231.023 mph, and the starting lineup includes eight former winners with 13 combined victories.

Johnson, the seven-time NASCAR champion, and former F1 driver Grosjean are among six rookies in the field, the most since 2019. The group includes 20-yearold David Malukas, who wasn't even born when 47-year-old Tony Kanaan made his first Indy 500 start. Defending race winner Helio Castroneves is the most experienced driver with 21 previous starts and he will be trying for a record fifth Indy 500 victory.

"The competition has always been crazy, it really just speaks for itself," said Dixon, a six-time IndyCar champion. "If they can get it in front of people, then it's a home run. But they need to spend some money."

Scott McLaughlin, who left V8 Supercars in Australia to move to North Carolina and be an IndyCar driver, called the series "the purest in the world." He said the comraderie is unlike anything he's seen since childhood go-karting, and the personalities in the paddock are among the biggest and best in sports.